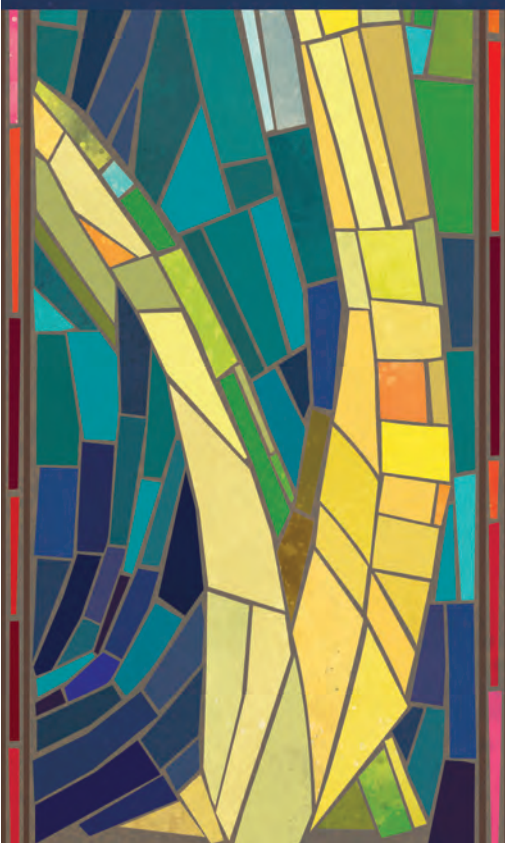


**CHRIST,
THE CHURCH,
AND THE
WORLD**

**AS PORTRAYED
THROUGH THE
BANNERS OF
GRACE COMMUNITY
CHURCH**



GOD'S GREAT PLAN OF SALVATION

In the Old Testament the people of God rejoiced that their king was given victory. They set up banners in the name of God to remember his great work on their behalf (Psalm 20:5).

Jesus Christ is our King. He was proclaimed by the prophets as the coming Messiah. He was born in the fullness of time as the baby of a virgin. He lived, died, and was raised from the dead to save us from our sins. He will come again! When he does, he will make all things new, and all who trust him will be saved. This is the story of God's great plan of salvation.

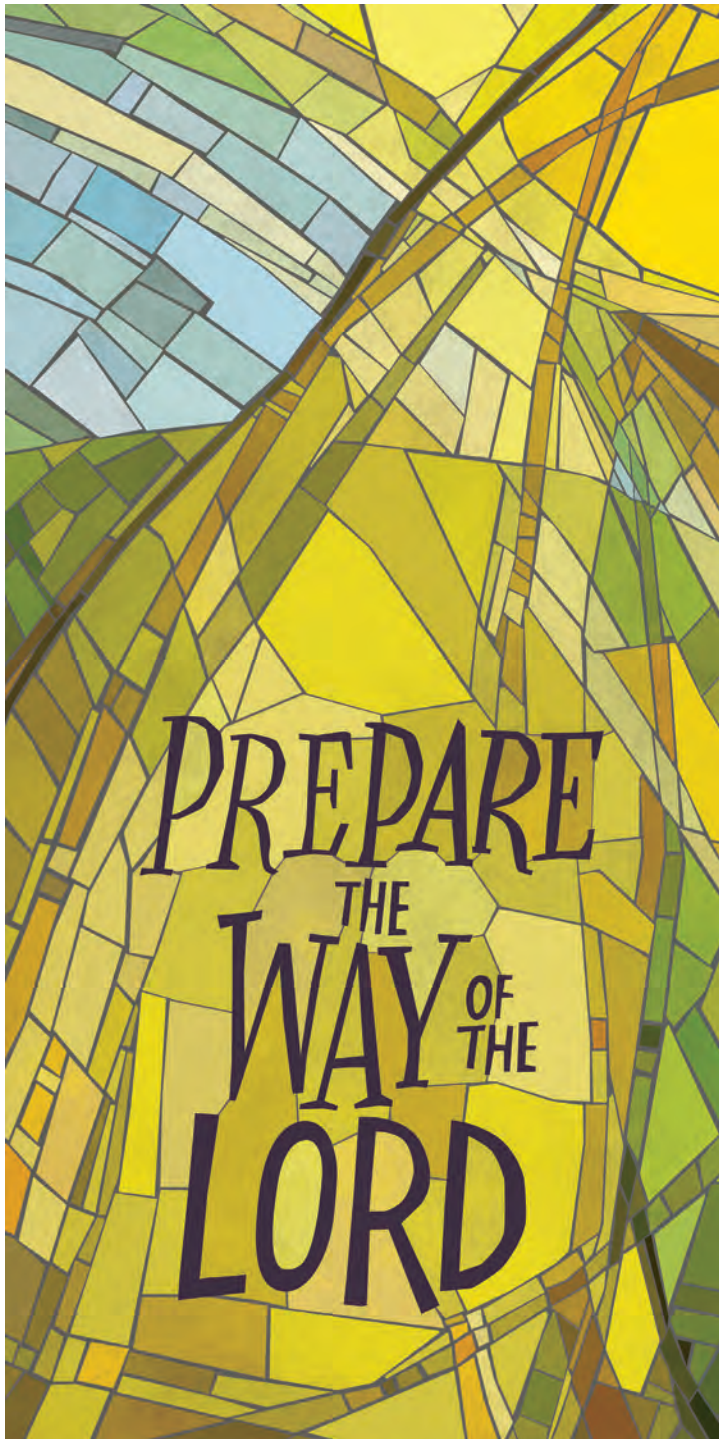
Here at Grace Community Church, we set up banners to remember and rejoice in Christ our King and Savior.

You will notice these banners when you enter for worship. Each one represents a season of God's saving plan. This reminder of God's saving grace in Christ sets our minds on the truth and stirs the affections of our hearts to worship him.

This brochure explains each banner in its biblical context. Following a twelve-month cycle, the banners tell the whole story of salvation: beginning with the prophecy of the coming Christ, then moving through his birth, life, death, resurrection, giving of the Spirit to the church, and future return.

It is our prayer that these banners will serve in teaching the gospel, drawing people to faith, and stirring greater worship of God for his great salvation in Christ.

At the end of this brochure, you will read how Christ can be your Savior. Please let us know if you would like to discuss salvation or any other spiritual issue with someone from Grace. We will be happy to serve you.

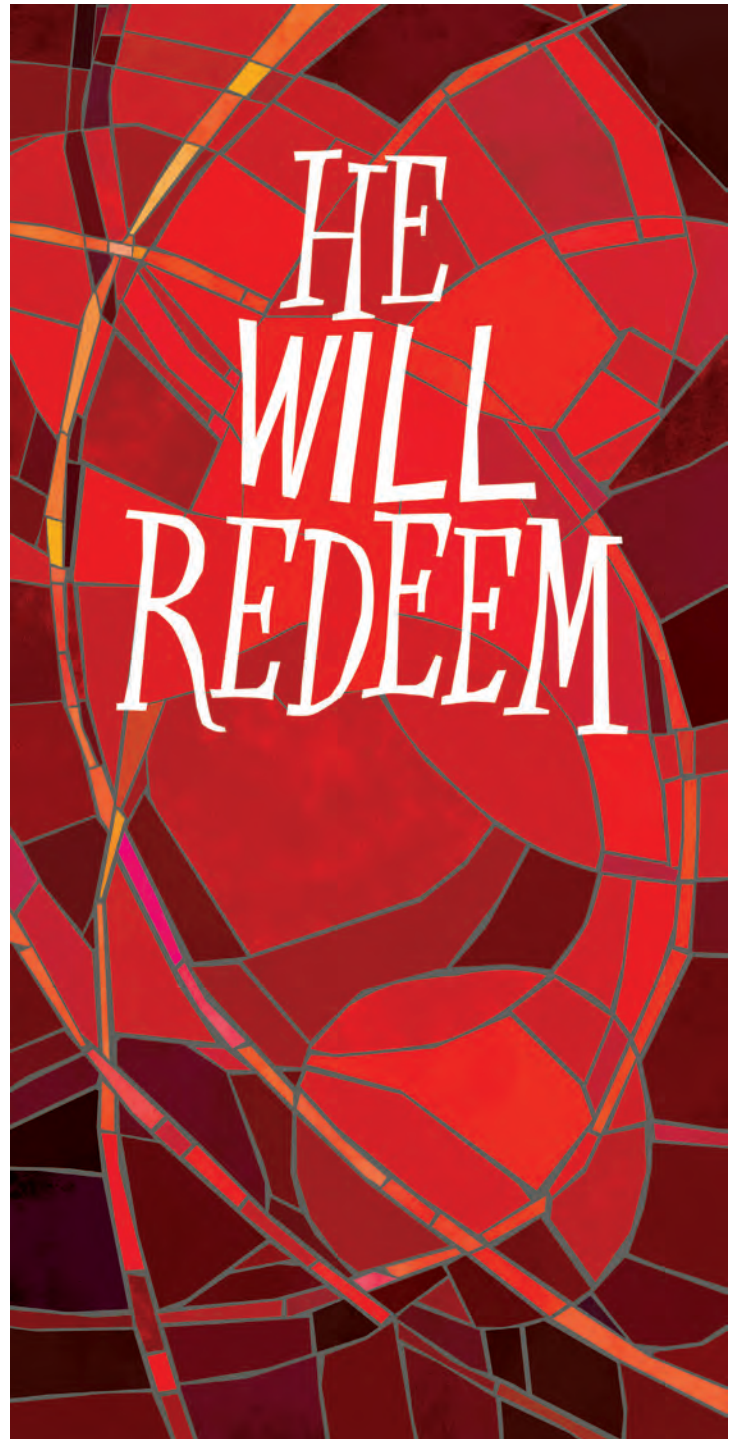


PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF CHRIST

SEPTEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER

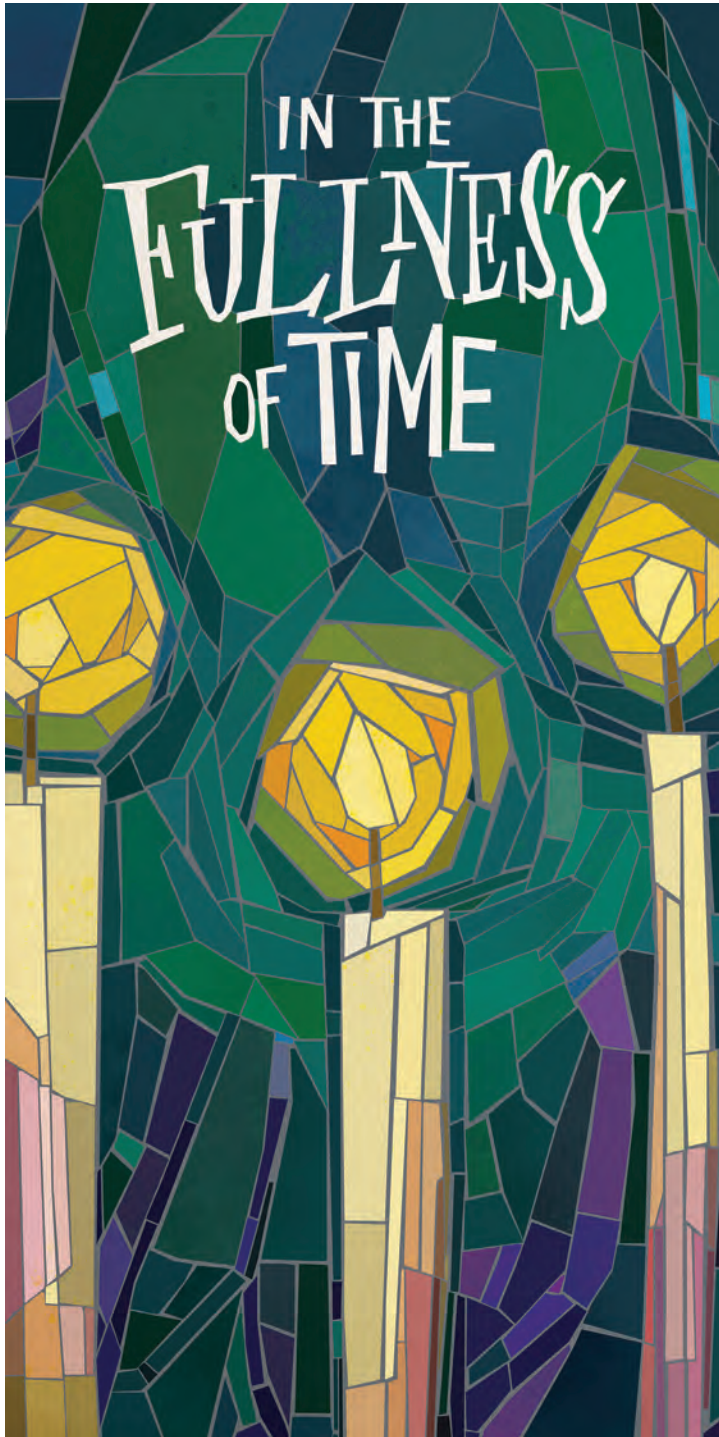
A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

ISAIAH 40:3



But now thus says the LORD . . . "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

ISAIAH 43:1



CHRIST HAS COME

ADVENT, THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

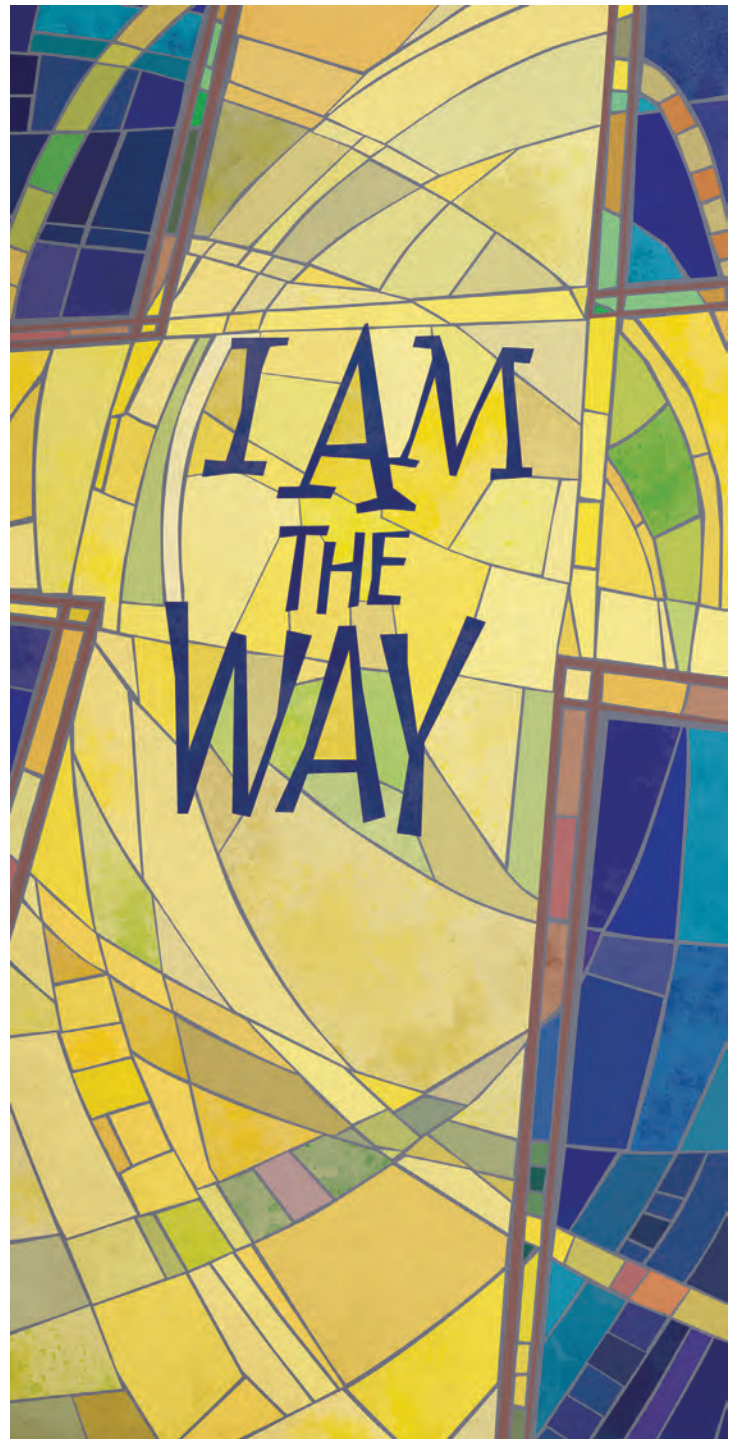
But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

GALATIANS 4:4-5



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6



THE LIFE AND DEATH OF CHRIST

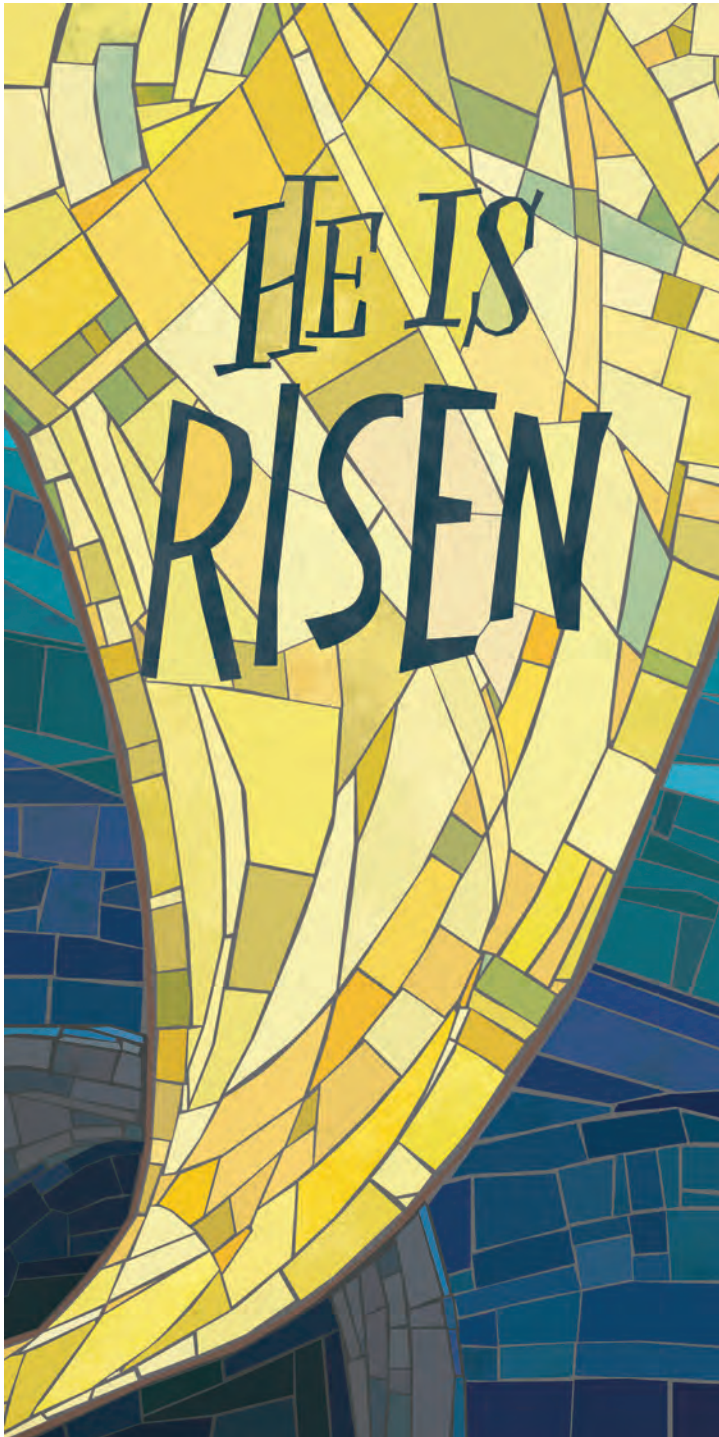
JANUARY THROUGH GOOD FRIDAY

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?”

MARK 8:34-36

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

JOHN 14:6-7



CHRIST'S RESURRECTION AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

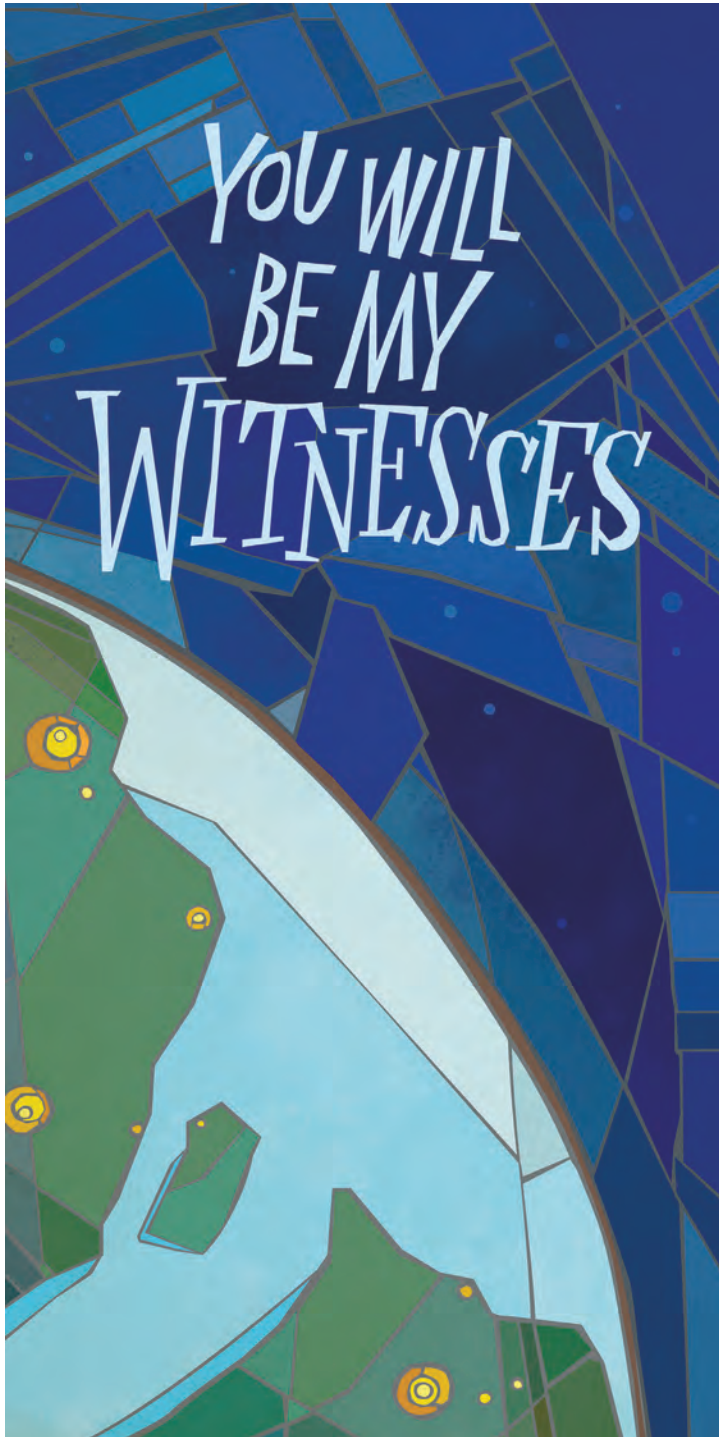
EASTER SUNDAY THROUGH PENTECOST SUNDAY

But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay."

MATTHEW 28:5-9

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

ACTS 1:8



THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

PENTECOST THROUGH AUGUST

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

MATTHEW 28:18-20

Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

2 TIMOTHY 4:8

IS CHRIST YOUR SAVIOR AND KING?

As you can see from the Bible passages and banners in this brochure, God has acted in this world to save us through Jesus Christ. The Bible verses below explain God's way of salvation.

Ephesians 2:8-9 – Salvation is a gift of God. Grace means that salvation is a free gift to us from God. Salvation is free to us because Jesus Christ paid for it with his life. We do not deserve salvation, nor could we ever do anything to earn it. Salvation is received by faith in Christ's payment for our sins.

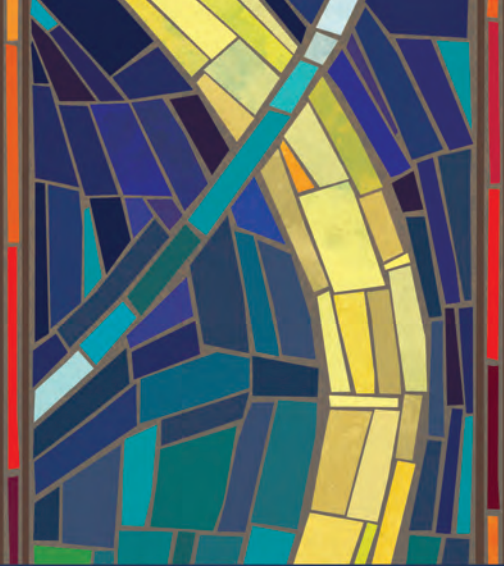
Romans 3:23, 6:23 – Every person is a sinner and has sinned in thought, word and action. Sin is anything that is against God's will and ways. Our sin separates us from God because he is sinless and holy. Because of our sin, we are spiritually dead and separated from God. Our greatest need is for a Savior who will take away our sin and guilt, and make us right with God.

Romans 5:8 – Jesus Christ is our Savior. God showed his great love for us by sending Jesus Christ to earth to die on a cross. Jesus took the punishment for our sins on himself. By bearing our punishment and dying our death, Jesus is our Savior.

Acts 3:19; Romans 10:9-13 – The death of Christ removes the sins of those who believe in him. To believe in Jesus Christ is to repent of sin and turn to him for forgiveness. To believe is to confess Christ as Lord by calling on him for salvation.

John 3:16 – The one who believes in Jesus will have eternal life. Eternal life begins the moment a person trusts Jesus Christ. It is a life of love and fellowship with him on earth and eternal life with him in heaven.

Have you repented of your sin and called on Jesus Christ to be your Savior and King? If your heart is stirred to do so, we would love to help you understand more about God's salvation and how you can follow Christ. Please contact us to let us know.



All scripture references
are from the
English Standard Version

Banner art created
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